

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 01392 01 OF 05 051528Z

45

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 ACDA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 DPW-01 /092 W

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R 051030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2519

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 1392

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 01392 01 OF 05 051528Z

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MIL VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM WEEKLY CEASEFIRE ASSESSMENT, JAN 29 - FEB 4, 1975

PART I - SUMMARY

A. THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY WAS RELATIVELY LIGHT THIS PERIOD, WITH INCIDENTS DOWN OVER 20 PERCENT COUNTRYWIDE. THIS CONTINUED THE DOWNWARD TREND OF THE PAST TWO WEEKS. HOWEVER, THIS IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE "LULL" BEFORE THE STILL EXPECTED "STORM" AROUND TET. IN A NUMBER OF AREAS GVN MILITARY ANTICIPATE A SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST UPSURGE DURING THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAY. IN KEEPING WITH THE SMALLER NUMBER OF INCIDENTS GVN CASUALTY FIGURES BASED ON INITIAL BATTLEFIELD REPORTS WERE ALSO LOWER, WITH KIA DOWN SOMEWHAT MORE THAN 20 PERCENT.

B. THERE WAS NO ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, ALTHOUGH ARVN 1ST DIVISION ELEMENTS RETOOK HILL 273 SOUTH OF NUI BONG AS THE MO TAU/NUI BONG CLEARING OPERATION CONTINUED. SOUTH OF THE PASS THE ACTIVITY WAS SOMEWHAT GREATER. THE ARVN 2ND DIVISION CLEARING OPERATION IN QUANG NGAI, WHICH IS FOCUSING ON THE HILL AREA SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY, HAS MADE MINIMUM PROGRESS IN THE FACE OF STIFF COMMUNIST RESISTANCE.

C. MR-2 WAS GENERALLY QUIET, WITH THE INCIDENTS EVEN IN BINH DINH AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL. THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUED THEIR ABFS IN THE AREA OF THE AN LAO VALLEY, BUT GVN FORCES MAINTAIN THEIR COMMANDING POSITIONS. THE MOST NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITY IN THE KONTUM/PLEIKU AREA WAS AGAIN THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT OF MEN AND MATERIEL. VNAF EFFORTS TO COUNTER THIS MOVEMENT HAVE MET WITH ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS.

D. THE FIGHTING IN TAY NINH PROVINCE, INCLUDING AGAINST TAY NINH CITY, WAS APPRECIABLY LESS, CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL MODERATE SITUATION IN MR-3. NVA SAPPER ACTIVITY
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01392 01 OF 05 051528Z

PERSISTED, HOWEVER, AS WELL AS THE PSYWAR CAMPAIGN INVOLVING THREATS OF TET ACTION. SHELLING INCIDENTS ALSO CONTINUED THIS WEEK, INCLUDING AROUND AN LOC IN BINH LONG PROVINCE.

3. FIGHTING WAS DOWN AGAIN IN MR-4, PARTICULARLY IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN DELTA AREAS. HOWEVER, ALL THE MILITARY (FROM THE CORPS COMMANDER DOWN) LOOK FOR A NEW UPSURGE

MOMENTARILY. MOST OF THE INCIDENTS IN THE NORTHERN AREA WERE MINOR. HOWEVER, IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE VC IN ARVN UNIFORMS ATTACKED THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CADRE WAREHOUSE JUST OUTSIDE MY THO, WITH 11 CASUALTIES AND HEAVY DAMAGE TO THE WAREHOUSE. IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE IN THE CENTRAL DELTA A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 80 TO HA TIEN WAS DESTROYED AND THE HA TIEN NAVAL BASE SHELLED. THE RELATIVE LULL IN THE SOUTH PERMITTED THE GVN TO REOCCUPY FOUR OPERATING BASES IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE.

PART II - ICCS

A. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATIONS SENT FORMAL UNILATERAL PROTESTS TO THE RVN OVER THE RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE ANTI-COMMUNIST GROUPS AT ICCS INSTALLATIONS. THE INDONESIAN AND IRANIANS REFUSED TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THIS PROTEST SINCE IT DID NOT MENTION THE CAUSE AND PROVOCATION OF THE DEMONSTRATION, I.E., THE NVA/VC SEIZURE OF PHUOC LONG PROVINCE. THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION THEREUPON ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE CONTAINING WHAT IT INTENDED TO BE A BALANCED STATEMENT, REITERATING THE INDONESIAN POSITION THAT THE ICCS SHOULD CONTINUE TO ASSIST BOTH PARTIES TO END THE WAR, REQUESTING THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION OF THE PARTIES IN THIS EFFORT, NOTING THE "WORSENING MILITARY SITUATION", AND MENTIONING ITS CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY OF ICCS PERSONNEL.

B. WITHIN THE COMMISSION, HUNGARIAN AND POLISH OFFICERS IN THE SECRETARIAT HAVE CONTINUED TO HOLD UP PAYMENT OF BILLS TO AMERICAN CONTRACTORS. EMBASSY HAS URGED HUNGARIAN CHAIRMAN OF THE MONTH TO INSTRUCT "SECRETARIAT" (I.E. POLES AND HUNGARIANS IN IT) TO PROCESS BILLS FORTHWITH.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01392 01 OF 05 051528Z

PART III - FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS THIRTY-THIRD WEEK.

PART IV - COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

COMMUNIST ANTI-AID CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

DRV AND "PRG" PROPAGANDA OUTPUT OPPOSING THE ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR MILITARY AID TO THE GVN AND THE GKR CONTINUED UNABATED. THE PRINCIPAL THRUST HAS BEEN AN ALMOST GLEEFUL RECITATION OF OPPOSING CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENTS, ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATIONS AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN THE U.S.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01392 02 OF 05 051707Z

45

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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R 051030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2520

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 5 SAIGON 1392

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 01392 02 OF 05 051707Z

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PART V - MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 131 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, A DECREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 155. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS FIGHTING WAS AT A LOW LEVEL IN QUANG NAM AND QUANG TIN PROVINCES AND REMAINED AT A MODERATE LEVEL IN QUANG NGAI (P). FROM JANUARY 29-31, A 36 HOUR "DONG KHOI" OPERATION THROUGHOUT MR-1 ACCOUNTED FOR 70 NVA/VC KIA, 326 CAPTURED, AND 412 DESERTERS AND 249 DRAFT DODGERS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. ON FEBRUARY 2, FOUR BATTALIONS, TWO FROM THE NEWLY FORMED 4TH AIRBORNE BRIGADE AND TWO FROM THE 468TH MARINE BRIGADE, EMBARKED ON LSTS FOR TRANSPORT TO SAIGON. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD GVN CASUALTIES WERE 83 KIA, 399 WIA, 23 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 226 KIA, 201 CAPTURED, AND 1 RETURNEE. A TOTAL OF 149 COMBAT AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

QUANG TRI (P) WAS QUIET. IN THUA THIEN (P), THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION CONTINUED SEARCH AND CLEARING OPERATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF MO TAU AND NUI BONG. ON JAN 29TH, ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST DIV RE-OCCUPIED HILL 273, SOUTH OF NUI BONG IN NAM HOA (D), THUA THIEN (P), WITHOUT NVA/VC RESISTANCE. FROM FEBRUARY 1ST THROUGH FEB 3RD, 44 COMBAT AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN IN SUPPORT OF THE 1ST DIVISION.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM (P), THE MILITARY SITUATION WAS RELATIVELY QUIET. ON JAN 30, AN UNGUARDED CULVERT ON PROV RTE 540 WAS BLOWN UP BY THE NVA/VC, 2.5KM NE OF DAI LOC DISTRICT TOWN, QUANG NAM (P), CAUSING A TEMPORARY INTERRUPTION OF TRAFFIC UNTIL LATER THE SAME MORNING. ON JAN 30, A BRIDGE GUARDED BY THE 197TH PF PLT ON PROV RTE 540, 2KM NE OF DAI LOC DISTRICT TOWN, WAS DAMAGED 30 PERCENT BY NVA/VC SAPPERS. REPAIRS WERE CARRIED OUT BY ARVN ENGRS. ON FEB 4, I CORPS REPORTED THAT THE NAM O BRIDGE LOCATED

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 01392 02 OF 05 051707Z

APPROXIMATELY 10KM NW OF DANANG CITY OF HWY 1 WAS UNDER REPAIR BY

ENGR UNITS AND TRAFFIC WOULD BE HALTED FROM 1000 TO 1600 HRS DAILY FOR SEVERAL DAYS. THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN QUANG TIN (P). IN QUANG NGAI (P), THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION OPERATION "QUYET THANG A/1/75" ATTEMPTING TO RECAPTURE AND CONTROL THE HILLS SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY, PARTICULARLY NUI DANH KHUONG, HAS MET STIFF RESISTANCE, AND NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE DURING THE PAST WEEK.

4. ICCS:

NO INVESTIGATIONS OR OBSERVATIONS WERE REPORTED IN EITHER ICCS REGION 1 OR REGION 2.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01392 03 OF 05 051459Z

45

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

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R 051030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2521

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 5 SAIGON 1392

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 01392 03 OF 05 051459Z

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PART VI- MR-2

1. SUMMARY: APART FROM AN INCREASE IN COMMUNIST CASUALTIES AS A RESULT OF VNAF AIRSTRIKES, MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR-2 REMAINED AT LAST WEEK'S RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL. THE PRINCIPAL CONTACTS IN BINH DINH RESULTED FROM GVN OPERATIONS IN TAM QUAN AND THE VINH THANH VALLEY. IN KONTUM, PLEIKU AND DARLAC, VNAF AIRSTRIKES CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO COMMUNIST TRUCK CONVOYS. ELEMENTS OF THE 23RD ARVN DIV HAVE NOW DEPLOYED TO DARLAC FROM PLEIKU. VC HARASSMENT HAS PICKED UP IN NINH THUAN, AND IN BINH THUAN SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPECT MAJOR COMMUNIST ATTACKS BEFORE OR DURING TET.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY JAN 27 - FEB 2

I. COMMUNIST-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

	TOTAL INCIDENTS	HIGHLAND	COASTAL ZONE
LAST WEEK:	48	30 PERCENT	70 PERCENT
THIS WEEK:	48	19 PERCENT	81 PERCENT

BINH DINH WAS THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 34 INCIDENTS.

II. COMMUNIST PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	PERSONNEL			WEAPONS		
	KIA	CIA	RETURNEE	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	234	12	05	06	58	64
THIS WEEK:	175	03	03	05	55	60

III. GVN PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	31	60	05	00	13	13
THIS WEEK:	50	88	03	00	01	01

IV. GVN ARTILLERY AMMO UTILIZATION (ROUNDS):

LAST WEEK: 12,907

THIS WEEK: 10,939

V. GVN AIR OPERATIONS (SORTIES):

TAC AIR VR HELICOPTER

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01392 03 OF 05 051459Z

LAST WEEK: 263 191 1,032

THIS WEEK: 294 142 472

2. BINH DINH: WITH NVA/VC ACTIVITY AT A LOW LEVEL AGAIN THIS WEEK, THE PRINCIPAL CONTACTS IN BINH DINH RESULTED FROM GVN INITIATED OPERATIONS. FROM JAN 30 TO FEB 2, THE 1ST BN OF THE LGJRQST ARVN REGT, SUPPORTED BY THE 3RD TROOP/14TH APC SQDRN, ENGAGED IN AN OPERATION IN NORTHERN TAM QUAN DESIGNED TO STOP NVA/VC HARASSMENT OF MILITARY TRAFFIC ON QL-1. THE COMMUNISTS, HOWEVER, WERE WELL DUG IN, AND INFLICTED 14 KIA AND 32 WIA ON THE ARVN; IN ADDITION, COMMUNIST B-40 FIRE DESTROYED TWO GVN ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES IN THESE CONTACTS WERE UNCERTAIN. THE OTHER MAIN GVN OPERATION TOOK PLACE IN THE VINH THANH VALLEY, BINH KHE DISTRICT, WHERE THE 3RD BN/47TH ARVN REGT MET ONLY LIGHT RESISTANCE AS IT INCHED NORTHWARD. THE 68TH NVA ARTILLERY REGT IS REPORTEDLY LOCATED IN THE NORTHERN END OF THE VALLEY WHERE IT IS BUILDING FORTIFICATIONS. A FORWARD HEADQUARTERS OF THE NVA 3RD DIVISION WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY LOCATED IN THIS AREA AS OF JAN 9. COMMUNIST ATTACKS BY FIRE AGAINST GVN POSITIONS ON HILLS 82, 174 AND NUI CHEO NEAR THE AN LAO VALLEY CONTINUED. THE 52ND NVA BRIGADE, WHICH UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS HAD EARLIER PLACED IN TAM QUAN, HAS BEEN CONFIRMED TO BE IN QUANG NGAI. NONETHELESS, SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPECT THE 52ND TO ENTER BINH DINH IN ORDER TO FREE ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD NVA DIV FOR AN ATTACK ON QL-19.

3. KONTUM/PLEIKU: KONTUM AND PLEIKU SAW NO SUBSTANTIAL GROUND CONTACTS. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST MOVEMENT OF MEN AND SUPPLIES IN THESE PROVINCES CONTINUES, AS DO VNAF ATTEMPTS TO STRIKE AT THIS MOVEMENT. ON FEB 3, 23 AIR SORTIES TO THE NORTH OF KONTUM CITY REPORTEDLY KILLED 115 COMMUNISTS, DESTROYED 10 VEHICLES AND 5 AA GUNS, DAMAGED A BRIDGE, AND TRIGGERED TWO SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS. ADDITIONAL AIRSTRIKES CALLED IN ON A COMMUNIST CONVOY ON HIGHWAY 715 ON FEB 4 REPORTEDLY KILLED 50 COMMUNISTS, DESTROYED 6 TRUCKS, AND DAMAGED 12 OTHERS. AND IN PLEIKU, ON FEB 2 AND 3, GVN GUNSHIPS REPORTED DESTROYING AT LEAST 8 TRUCKS IN A COMMUNIST CONVOY. A NEW PROVINCE CHIEF, COLONEL NHU, HAS BEEN NAMED TO REPLACE COLONEL DUNG IN PLEIKU.

4 DARLAC: ACTION PICKED UP CONSIDERABLY. HAVING OBSERVED TRAFFIC ON THE NVA NORTH-SOUTH ROUTE IN WESTERN DARLAC, THE GVN
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01392 03 OF 05 051459Z

CALLED IN AIRSTRIKES ON JAN 28 AND 29, REPORTEDLY DESTROYING 5 TRUCKS AND DAMAGING 4. VNAF ALSO REPORTED THAT ON JAN 30, AIR SORTIES DAMAGED 3 TANKS IN COMMUNIST BASE AREA 238 NORTH OF BAN ME THUOT. BECAUSE OF THESE TANK SIGHTINGS AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO COMMUNIST BASE AREA 238, ELEMENTS OF THE 53RD ARVN REGT TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL TERRITORIAL UNITS HAVE LAUNCHED AN OPERATION IN AND AROUND THE BASE AREA; ONLY 2 SMALL GROUND CONTACTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED THIS FAR. DUE TO GVN APPREHENSION AS TO COMMUNIST INTENTIONS--THERE HAVE BEEN UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE 320TH NVA REGT HAS MOVED TO DARLAC--ELEMENTS OF THE 53RD AND 45TH ARVN REGTS WERE DISPATCHED TO DARLAC FROM PLEIKU. THE 45TH'S AREA OF OPERATION ALONG QL-19 IN EASTERN PLEIKU HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE 4TH RANGER GROUP.

5. OTHER: IN PHU YEN, QL-1 REMAINS A FOCAL POINT FOR COMMUNIST HARASSMENT; IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT ON THE HIGHWAY THIS WEEK, THE VC DETONATED A MINE AND DIRECTED B-40 FIRE AGAINST GVN TROOPS, KILLING 3 AND WOUNDING 12 OTHERS. AGGRESSIVE GVN PATROLLING IN KHANH HOA NETTED 11 COMMUNIST KIA AS AGAINST 4 GVN KIA. 54 MONTAGNARD CIVILIANS MANAGED TO EVADE NVA/VC UNITS AND STRAGGLED INTO QUANG DUC FROM PHUOC LONG ON FEB 1. ON JAN 29, THE PROVINCE CHIEF AND OTHER OFFICIALS WERE TEMPORARILY GROUNDED IN PONGOUR, TUYEN DUC, WHEN THE AIR AMERICA HELICOPTER IN WHICH THEY HAD ARRIVED WAS STRUCK BY TWO ROUNDS OF AK-47 FIRE, WHICH RUPTURED AN OIL LINE. THERE WERE NO INJURIES AND THE HELICOPTER WAS REPAIRED AND IN OPERATION AGAIN IN A MATTER OF HOURS. VC HARASSMENT ACTIONS IN NINH THUAN HAVE PICKED UP. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS OF SIGHTINGS OF BATTALION-SIZED COMMUNIST UNITS IN BINH THUAN; SECTOR OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE THAT THE COMMUNISTS WILL LAUNCH MAJOR ATTACKS BEFORE OR DURING TET.

6. ICCS: AT ABOUT 0945 HRS ON JAN 30, TWO IRANIAN AND TWO INDONESIAN ICCS MEMBERS MADE AN "OBSERVATION" OF THE SITE IN SONG MY HAMLET, SONG PHA DISTRICT, NINH THUAN WHERE 3 VC ALLEGEDLY KILLED A YOUNG GIRL AND WOUNDED AN OLD MAN. IN DARLAC, ON JAN 28, THE INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS OBSERVED THE DESTRUCTION OF OLD AMMUNITION AT THE 23RD ARVN DIV AMMO DUMP. ON JAN 28, ON BEHALF OF OVER 200 DEMONSTRATORS, THE CHIEF SOUTH VIETNAMESE DELEGATE OF THE TWO-PART JMC, LTC TIN, PRESENTED TWO LETTERS PROTESTING COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS OF

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PAGE 05 SAIGON 01392 03 OF 05 051459Z

THE CEASEFIRE TO ALL FOUR ICCS DELEGATIONS AT THE NINH HOA ICCS COMPOUND IN KHANH HOA.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01392 04 OF 05 051413Z

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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R 051030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2522

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 5 SAIGON 1392

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 01392 04 OF 05 051413Z

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PART VII - MR-3

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR-3 CONTINUED AT A MODERATE, DIMINISHED LEVEL WITH A MARKED DECLINE IN ACTIVITY IN TAY NINH PROVINCE AND ONLY TWO ABF'S AGAINST TAY NINH CITY. IN THE EAST, ON FEB 4 RF TROOPS SUPPORTED BY THE 43RD REGT RE-TOOK VO XU HAMLET EAST OF HOAI DUC IN BINH TUY PROVINCE AGAINST FAIRLY LIGHT RESISTANCE BY LOCAL VC FORCES. NVA EFFORT DURING THE WEEK CONSISTED MOSTLY OF SAPPER ATTACKS AGAINST LOCAL GOVT OFFICES AND OFFICIALS, CONTINUED PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFORTS THREATENING ACTION AT TET, AND SHELLING. THERE WERE NO MAJOR ATTACKS BY LARGE MAIN FORCE UNITS.

2. A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY BROUGHT THIS WEEK'S TOTAL TO 195 INCIDENTS, COMPARED WITH 235 LAST WEEK. TAY NINH RECORDED 27 INCIDENTS (79 LAST WEEK) WHILE BINH DUONG HAD 33 (24) AND HAU NGHIA 23 (17). MR-3 HQS REPORTED 45 GROUND CONTACTS, 84 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND 11 COMBINED GROUND AND ABF'S. THERE WERE 19 MININGS AND 36 OTHER INCIDENTS. ONE F-5 RECEIVED AA FIRE AND CRASHED IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE.

3. NVA/VC FIRED A TOTAL OF 1,141 ABF ROUNDS, INCLUDING 949 MORTAR, 91 ROCKET, AND 101 ARTILLERY ROUNDS. ARVN EXPENDITURES DROPPED TO 15,341 FROM LAST WEEK'S 30,071 ROUNDS. VNAF 3RD AIR DIV FLEW 145 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 191 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 33 KIA, 229 WIA, AND FOUR MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE REPORTEDLY 118 KIA, THREE CIA, AND FOUR RALLIERS. VNAF REPORTED AN ADDITIONAL 97 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR.

5. BINH DUONG HAD THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN MR-3, PRIMARILY SMALL UNIT GROUND CONTACTS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE. ON JAN 28, 29, AND 30 SECTOR HEADQUARTERS AT LAM SON WAS ATTACKED BY 107MM AND 122MM ROCKETS LEAVING ONE CIVILIAN KILLED, ONE WOUNDED, AND TWO HOUSES DESTROYED. ON JAN 28 REGIONAL FORCES CLASHED WITH AN NVA/VC FORCE IN AN AREA THREE KMS NORTHEAST OF PHU HOA DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, KILLING TWO NVA/VC WHILE SUFFERING TEN WOUNDED. ON JAN 31 IN THE SAME PHU HOA AREA, ARVN RANGERS MADE CONTACT WITH NVA/VC FORCES KILLING TWO. ON JAN 31, THE HAMLET
CONFIDENTIAL
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01392 04 OF 05 051413Z

AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER WAS ASSASSINATED AT BINH PHUOC HAMLET NINE KMS EAST OF PHU CUONG.

6. IN TAY NINH PROVINCE THERE WAS A MARKED DECLINE IN INCIDENTS

DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. MOST INCIDENTS TOOK THE FORM OF ATTACKS BY FIRE AND LIMITED GROUND CONTACTS IN THE KHIEM HANH AREA, SOUTHEAST OF TAY NINH CITY. THE PROVINCE CAPITAL ITSELF WAS HIT BY 10 ROUNDS OF 122MM ROCKET ON FEB 4 RESULTING IN SIX WOUNDED AND AN RD OFFICE 50 PERCENT DESTROYED.

7. IN GIA DINH PROVINCE ON JAN 29, NVA/VC FORCES FIRED TWO 122MM ROCKETS AGAINST THE HOC MON SUBSECTOR KILLING SEVEN CIVILIANS AND DESTROYING THREE CIVILIAN HOMES. ON JAN 31 NVA/VC TERRORISTS DESTROYED THE BINH THO HAMLET OFFICE IN THU DUC, KILLING THE DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF, AND ATTACKED A HYDRO-AGRICULTURE CENTER IN BINH CHANH, DAMAGING ONE BUILDING 60 PERCENT. ON FEB 2, A HELICOPTER ASSIGNED TO THE TAN SON NHUT BASE COMMAND WAS HIT BY SMALL ARMS FIRE WHILE FLYING OVER SAIGON'S SEVENTH PRECINCT AND CRASHED IN THE BINH CHANH AREA. FOUR CREWMEMBERS WERE WOUNDED AND THE COPTER WAS DESTROYED.

8. IN BINH LONG PROVINCE ON JAN 31 ACTIVITY NEAR AN LOC INTENSIFIED WHEN NVA/VC FORCES SHELLED 300 ROUNDS OF 61MM AND 82MM MORTAR INTO AN AREA SEVEN KMS SOUTHEAST OF THE CITY AND LAUNCHED FOUR ATTACKS AGAINST THE 365TH RF BN. GVN CASUALTIES WERE LISTED AS NEGATIVE AND NVA/VC AS UNKNOWN.

9. IN HAU NGHIA PROVINCE ON JAN 28 TERRITORIAL FORCES MADE TWO SEPARATE CONTACTS WITH AN ESTIMATED NVA COMPANY FIVE KMS SOUTHWEST OF DUC HOA DISTRICT. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE 15 KILLED WHILE THE GVN HAD THREE WOUNDED.

10. IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE, ACTIVITY WAS IN THE FORM OF ABF ATTACKS AND LIMITED GROUND ATTACKS IN THE TAN UYEN AREA (NEAR THE BINH DUONG BORDER) AND NHON TRACH DISTRICT. BIEN HOA AIR BASE RECEIVED FOUR ROUNDS OF 122MM ROCKET ON JAN 28 AND LONG BINH BASE AMMUNITION AND STORAGE AREAS WERE SHELLED ON JAN 29 AND 31. NEGATIVE DAMAGE WAS REPORTED.

11. ICCS: THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION CONDUCTED ONE OBSERVATION ON JAN 30 AT A ROCKET IMPACT SITE AT PHU LOI, BINH DUONG PROVINCE,
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01392 04 OF 05 051413Z

WHERE ONE CIVILIAN WAS REPORTED KILLED. ON JAN 31 A MEMBER OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION WITNESSED THE DESTRUCTION OF AMMUNITION AT LONG BINH BASE.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01392 05 OF 05 051702Z

45

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 ACDA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 DPW-01 /092 W

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R 051030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2523

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 5 SAIGON 1392

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01392 05 OF 05 051702Z

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VIII - MR-4

1. MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: DELTA FIGHTING CONTINUED TO DECLINE THIS WEEK AS BOTH SIDES APPARENTLY PREPARED FOR EXPECTED TET UPSURGE. DECLINE WAS MOST MARKED IN SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL DELTA WHERE EVEN NORMALLY ACTIVE PROVINCES OF VINH LONG AND VINH BINH WERE QUIET BY END OF WEEK. NVA/VC DID, HOWEVER, DAMAGE TWO BRIDGES ON HIGHWAY 4, TEMPORARILY INTERRUPTING TRAFFIC ON SOUTHERN STRETCH OF THE ROAD. ALL MILITARY OFFICERS, FROM CORPS COMMANDER DOWN, EXPECT NEW HIGHPOINT TO BEGIN AT ANY TIME. CORPS REPORTS 352 NVA/VC-INITIATED INCIDENTS (502 LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 23 GROUND ATTACKS (47), 5 INFILTRATIONS (2), 243 ABF'S (325), 57 HARASSMENTS (109), 10 SABOTAGE (9), 9 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (7), AND 5 OTHER INCIDENTS. GVN LOSSES DROPPED TO 155 KIA (222), 558 WIA (934), 96 MIA (218), AND 2 CREW-SERVED (20) AND 213 INDIVIDUAL (623) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 818 NVA/VC KILLED (672), 34 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (28), AND 36 CREW-SERVED (22) AND 213 INDIVIDUTSSIKQIQL WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, 20 VC DRESSED IN 7TH ARVN DIVISION UNIFORMS ATTACKED THE PROVINCE RURAL DEVELOPMENT CADRE WAREHOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MY THO. THREE WERE KILLED AND EIGHT WOUNDED, WHILE THE CONTENTS OF THE WAREHOUSE WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED. ACTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE WAS LIGHT EXCEPT FOR HAU MY (D), WHERE THE DISTRICT GVN RECEIVED 33 MORTAR ROUNDS AND ROCKETS WHICH KILLED ONE RF AND WOUNDED 3 CIVILIANS. AN OUTPOST JUST WEST OF THE DISTRICT TOWN WAS SHELLED PERIODICALLY, AND 7TH ARVN DIVISION ELEMENTS MADE CONTACT SEVERAL TIMES LESS THAN 10 KM TO THE NORTH IN THE FORMER TRI-PHAP NVA/VC BASE AREA, BELIEVED TO BE A PRIMARY TARGET OF THE CURRENT SERIES OF HIGHPOINTS. IN ONE OF THESE CONTACTS, 28 NVA/VC WERE KILLED. ACTIVITY IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE DECLINED, WITH MOST INCIDENTS CONSISTING OF ABF'S. 7 MORTAR ROUNDS WERE FIRED AT MOC HOA, BUT ALL FELL SHORT OF THE TOWN. ELEMENTS OF 5TH NVA DIVISION ATTEMPTED TO APPROACH MOC HOA ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BUT WERE INTERCEPTED 8 TO 10 KM AWAY. TUYEN NHON SUB-SECTOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 01392 05 OF 05 051702Z

HQ WAS HIT BY 7 ABF'S, BUT TUYEN BINH SUB-SECTOR RECEIVED ONLY ONE MORTAR ROUND. TARGETS OF NEXT UPSURGE IN FIGHTING ARE EXPECTED TO BE KIEN BINH DISTRICT TOWN AND ROUTE 29 BETWEEN KIEN BINH AND MOC HAO. IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE ACTIVITY IN HONG NGU (D) DECLINED, WHILE THE REST OF THE PROVINCE REMAINED QUIET. KIEN VAN SUB-SECTOR WAS SHELLED 5 TIMES, WOUNDING 2 CHILDREN, WHILE ALL OTHER ABF'S WERE DIRECTED AGAINST RF AND PF OUTPOSTS CAUSING LIGHT CASUALTIES. 3 OB'S WHICH WERE OVERRUN OR ABANDONED LAST WEEK HAVE BEEN RETAKEN. ACTIVITY IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE GENERALLY DECREASED,

AND GVN CASUALTIES WERE LIGHT. HOWEVER, IN EXTREME NORTHERN PART OF TAN CHAU (D) A COMBINED RF/PF OPERATION REPORTEDLY KILLED 141 NVA/VC AND KHMER COMMUNISTS WHILE ONLY 8 GVN SOLDIERS WERE WOUNDED. THE AREA OF THE REPORTED CONTACT BORDERS ON CAMBODIA AND THE MAIN MEKONG SHIPPING CHANNEL.

(C) CENTRAL DELTA: KIEN HOA PROVINCE WAS QUIET, THOUGH NVA/VC HAVE INCREASED VERBAL HARASSMENT, CALLING ON VILLAGERS TO MOVE AWAY FROM POPULATED AREAS TO AVOID COMING FIGHTING. 6 VC WERE KILLED BY A PF MECHANICAL AMBUSH IN GIONG TROM (D), WHILE A WATCHTOWER IN DON NHON (D) WITHSTOOD A PLATOON-SIZED ATTACK EVEN THOUGH 3 OF THE DEFENDERS WERE KILLED AND 4 WOUNDED. VINH BINH PROVINCE WAS ACTIVE EARLIER IN THE WEEK, BUT QUIET FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS. THE ONLY SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTED WAS AN RF CONTACT IN SOUTHERN CAU NGANG (D) C WHICH 17 RF WERE WOUNDED AND 15 MISSING. SEVERAL VILLAGES CAME UNDER GROUND OR INDIRECT FIRE ATTACK BUT, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL WEEKS, NONE WERE OVERRUN OR ABANDONED. LONG TOAN DISTRICT TOWN CONTINUES TO HOLD, BUT IS SHELLED ALMOST DAILY. NEIGHBORING VINH LONG PROVINCE WAS UNUSUALLY QUIET WITH ONLY A FEW MORTARINGS OF OB'S AND WATCHTOWERS EARLY IN THE WEEK THAT CAUSED LIGHT GVN CASUALTIES. ACTIVITY CONTINUED IN NORMALLY SECURE SA DEC PROVINCE WHERE 3 OB'S AND 3 HAMLET OFFICES WERE ATTACKED AND HEAVILY DAMAGED IN DUC TON, LAP VO, AND DUC THINH DISTRICTS. A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 28 NW OF SA DEC WAS DAMAGED BY EXPLOSIVES; THE ROAD IS CURRENTLY THE PRIMARY SURFACE ROUTE TO KIEN PHONG PROVINCE. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, VC MORTARED AN RF BATTALION HQ IN PHUNG HIEP (D) 4 TIMES WOUNDING ONE RF. THE HQ HAS BEEN MORTARED AND ATTACKED FREQUENTLY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. IN THE SAME DISTRICT, THE WATCHTOWER AT CAU TRANG BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 4 TWO KM NW OF

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01392 05 OF 05 051702Z

THE DISTRICT TOWN WAS ATTACKED AND THE BRIDGE DAMAGED. TRAFFIC WAS TEMPORARILY INTERRUPTED. 15 VC WERE KILLED IN PHONG PHU (D) BY AIR AND ARTILLERY AFTER THEY CLASHED WITH AN RF COMPANY. ACTIVITY IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE DROPPED TO ONLY ONE OR TWO NVA/VC-INITIATED INCIDENTS PER DAY, MOST SIGNIFICANT OF WHICH WERE THE DESTRUCTION OF ANOTHER BRIDGE ON ROUTE 80 TO HA TIEN AND A SHELLING OF THE HA TIEN NAVAL BASE. PF AND 21ST DIVISION UNITS MADE CONTACT SEVERAL TIMES FROM 4 TO 7 KM NW OF KIEN BINH DISTRICT TOWN IN WHICH 21 NVA/VC WERE KILLED AND A LARGE QUANTITY OF WEAPONS, AMMUNITION AND EQUIPMENT CAPTURED.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: BA XUYEN PROVINCE ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DECLINE, BUT AN OB IN THANH TRI (D) WAS OVERRUN WITH THE SUSPECTED HELP OF A PF TRAITOR, WHILE ANOTHER OB IN THUAN HOA (D) WAS ABANDONED AFTER THE DEFENDERS SUFFERED ONE WOUNDED. OB'S IN HOA TU AND THANH TRI DISTRICTS CAME UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE

BUT HELD. BAC LIEU PROVINCE WAS GENERALLY QUIET, BUT VC/NVA INCREASED ACTIVITY IN VINH CHAU (D). MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT THERE WAS A DAYTIME SHELLING OF LAC HOA (V) WHICH WOUNDED ONE CIVILIAN. A BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 4 WAS HEAVILY DAMAGED BY EXPLOSIVES JUST SOUTH OF GIA RAI DISTRICT TOWN. TRAFFIC WAS REESTABLISHED THE SAME DAY. IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, THE PROVINCE TOWN AND LONG MY UKD KIEN HUNG DISTRICT TOWNS WERE MORTARED, BUT THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. 21ST DIVISION ELEMENTS REPORT ONLY SMALL CONTACTS NORTH OF VI THANH AND SOUTH OF KIEN THIEN DISTRICT TOWN. AN XUYEN PROVINCE REPORTS RELATIVELY LIGHT ACTIVITY WITH NO GROUND ATTACKS, AND GVN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LULL TO REOCCUPY 3 OB'S IN HAI YEN (D) AND ANOTHER IN THOI BINH (D). REOCCUPATION OF THE THOI BINH OB PERMITTED REESTABLISHMENT OF KHANH TAY SUB-SUBSECTOR, BUT RF UNITS IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN UNDER HEAVY MORTAR FIRE SINCE FEBRUARY 2.

2. ICCS ACTIVITY: ICCS REGION VI RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF 16 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS WHILE REGION VII RECEIVED 34 COMPLAINTS. NO OBSERVATIONS WERE CONDUCTED IN EITHER REGION. AN INDONESIAN DELEGATE CONFIDED TO CONGEN PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE IN MOC HOA THIS WEEK THAT HIS DELEGATION WOULD WITHDRAW FROM ICCS FOLLOWING TET.

3. GVN AFFAIRS: FOLLOWING THE GVN CRACKDOWN ON THE HOA HAO SELF-DEFENSE FORCE WHICH COMMENCED ON JANUARY 29, HOA HAO HAVE BEEN RESISTING GVN EFFORTS TO ROUND UP DESERTERS AND DRAFT-
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PAGE 05 SAIGON 01392 05 OF 05 051702Z

DODGERS IN ITS FORCE. MOST RESITANCE, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN LIMITED TO DEMONSTRATIONS AND BLOCKING OF ROADS INTO HOA HAO AREAS. NO MAJOR CONFRONTATION HAS YET OCCURRED, AND NEITHER SIDE APPEARS ANXIOUS TO PROVOKE ONE.
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